

President Kennedy's words, Pete Wirs becomes a "profile in courage" when he steps onto the freestyle wrestling mat this April 8th for his first competitive match. Our congratulations to Constable Wirs, and all of his fellow team members, coaches and boosters in this important sports history in the making.

PREVENTIVE SCREENING FOR COLORECTAL CANCER

HON. LOUISE MCINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 31, 2004

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to re-introduce the Eliminate Colorectal Cancer Act, a bill that can save the lives of thousands of people who might otherwise fall victim to the only completely preventable form of cancer.

Few people realize that colorectal cancer is the second leading cause of cancer death in the U.S. for men and women combined. It kills more Americans every year than either breast cancer or prostate cancer. An estimated 146,940 people will be diagnosed with this cancer in 2004, and 56,730 will die from it.

This is an unspeakable tragedy because colorectal cancer is preventable, treatable, and curable when detected at an early stage. When colorectal cancer is detected before it has spread, the five year survival rate is over 91 percent.

Further, colorectal cancer is the only cancer we know how to prevent. If polyps are discovered in the colon, they can be removed before they become cancerous and the cancer will never develop.

And yet tens of thousands of Americans continue to die from this disease, mostly because their cancer is detected at a later, less treatable stage.

No one should die of colorectal cancer. This cancer is preventable and detectable. It is slowgrowing and easy to stop in its tracks. The fact that over 56,000 Americans die of this disease is nothing more than a massive failure of our preventive health system.

For most Americans, two barriers effectively block their access to colorectal cancer screening: ignorance, and lack of insurance coverage. Many people simply don't realize they are at risk. When they are educated by their doctors and other sources, however, the vast majority are ready to undergo screening.

This brings them to the second major obstacle—insurance coverage. Not all insurers cover colorectal cancer screening, even for those groups at higher risk. All men and women over the age of 50 should be screened regularly, as well as those under 50 at high risk. Screening tests are crucial because colorectal cancer often causes no symptoms until it is widespread.

A recent Lewin Group study of the insurance plans offered under the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program (FEHBP) is illustrative. Lewin researchers reviewed the plan materials offered to subscribers to determine which covered the full range of colorectal cancer screening methods. In 2002, only 3 percent of FEHBP plans covered screening colonoscopy. In 2003, that number jumped dramatically to 28 percent. Clearly, insurers are realizing that these screening exams make

sense. Colorectal cancer screening is cost-effective, considering that treatment for a patient with an advanced form of cancer can easily be \$40,000 or more. Preventive screening is good policy, good health care, and good economics.

I am therefore proud to introduce today the Eliminate Colorectal Cancer Act, a bill to require insurers to cover a regular colorectal cancer screening exam. Doctors and patients will be able to decide together the appropriate screening method and frequency of testing. My friend and colleague, Rep. PETER KING, has joined me as original cosponsor of this vital initiative. In the Senate, a companion bill is being introduced today by Senators EDWARD KENNEDY and PAT ROBERTS.

I am pleased to report that a wide range of respected organizations have already lent their support to this initiative, including the American Cancer Society. These organizations will be working diligently to educate Members of Congress about the need for this legislation and to urge their support for it.

The wall at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial lists the names of 58,235 Americans who lost their lives over the course of that conflict. Every year, we lose almost that many men and women to colorectal cancer. But we have the power to eliminate colorectal cancer. I urge all of my colleagues to cosponsor the Eliminate Colorectal Cancer Act and put us on the path to realizing this worthy goal.

RECOGNIZING APRIL AS SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH

HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 31, 2004

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize April as Sexual Assault Awareness Month. Rape and sexual assault affects women, children, and men of all racial, cultural, and economic backgrounds. I commend the work of local organizations to end this type of violence.

The importance of these issues is illustrated by statistics that indicate that there were 10,176 forcible rapes reported in 2002; and that the Bureau of Justice Statistics estimates that over 70 percent of rapes are never reported to police; and that one in three women, one in four girls, one in six boys and one in eleven men will be victims of sexual violence at least once in their lifetimes.

While one person, organization, agency or community cannot eliminate sexual assault on their own, we must work together to educate our entire society about what can be done to prevent sexual assault, as well as to support survivors and their significant others, and increase support for agencies providing these services.

Santa Barbara Rape Crisis Center has led the way in Santa Barbara in addressing sexual assault by providing 24-hour hotline services to survivors and their significant others, responding to emergency calls, offering support and comfort to those impacted by sexual assault during medical exams, criminal proceedings, and empowering those impacted by sexual assault to chart their own course for healing.

Santa Barbara Rape Crisis Center has set an important example of how forging collabo-

rative relationships between service agencies and organizations improves the quality of service for those most profoundly and directly impacted by sexual violence.

Ending sexual assault in Santa Barbara must include active public and private efforts in collaboration with Santa Barbara Rape Crisis Center, including dialogue about what sexual violence is, how to prevent it and how to help survivors connect with crucial counseling and support services.

As a nurse, I understand firsthand the importance of education as it pertains to healthcare and to the prevention and elimination of sexual assault. I commend the efforts of the Santa Barbara Rape Crisis Center as they work to educate our community and provide crucial services to victims and their family members and significant others.

I want to express my strong support for all programs aimed at the elimination of sexual violence and hereby proclaim April as Sexual Assault Awareness Month.

TRIBUTE TO LARRY DOYLE

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 31, 2004

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Larry Doyle, a friend and a talented local government administrator, who is retiring today after 21 years of dedicated service to the city I am pleased to call home: Royal Oak, MI.

Throughout his tenure, Mr. Doyle was instrumental in guiding the city of Royal Oak through many exciting changes. I have been privileged to work with him and have seen first hand his professionalism and his dedication to the city and its residents.

His service began during the initial stages of the city's revival, first as Deputy City Attorney in 1983, then as city attorney in 1990. With the completion of Interstate 696 on the southern border, Royal Oak began reaping the benefits of its central position in southeast Michigan. With his active involvement businesses quickly utilized the location and the opening of diverse restaurants and unique shops brought visitors as frequently as local residents.

After a nationwide search, the city leadership rightly asked Larry to take the management helm of the city in 1994. Over the following years, he set policies that aided in bringing the city a new ice arena, a new district court, improvements in city parks, as well as tremendous growth in property values. These efforts lead to the recent "Cool City" designation by Governor Jennifer Granholm, not only for a vibrant downtown, but for a desirable hometown community for residents.

Larry's commitment to the city did not end with the workday. As an advocate and a resident, he can be found supporting any number of local events such as the Woodward Dream Cruise or the St. Patrick's Day Parade. The people of Royal Oak have indeed been well-served by all of his efforts.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing a dedicated public servant. I am pleased to join with the residents of Royal Oak in thanking Larry Doyle for his service to our community and wishing him and his wife of 30 years, Sue, good health, happiness and success in the years ahead.

RECOGNIZING THE PUBLIC SERVICE OF THE UNION LEADER AND WMUR-TV

HON. CHARLES F. BASS

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 31, 2004

Mr. BASS. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to announce significant milestones for two New Hampshire institutions: 141 years for the Manchester Union Leader and 50 years for WMUR-TV.

As Presidential candidates competing in our First-in-the-Nation Primary can tell you every 4 years—and I can tell you every day—these media outlets provide vital information to thousands of Granite Staters every day. The Union Leader has done it since March 31, 1863—WMUR for the past 50 years this month.

The breadth and depth of the coverage these different sources provide ought to be a model for local press everywhere. One is locally owned and the other by one of the world's largest diversified communications companies.

At a time when citizens have access to more sources of news, weather, and entertainment than ever before, each is a significant part of the New Hampshire community and a respected center of journalism.

I offer my congratulations for the Union Leader's and WMUR's many decades of community service and best wishes for continued coverage in the decades to come.

HONORING MILDRED WALLHAUSEN

HON. JO ANN EMERSON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 31, 2004

Mrs. EMERSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the accomplishments of Mildred Wallhausen, a great Missourian, a great American, and a great friend of mine. Millie is more than a hero to the many men and women whose lives she has touched—she is a mentor. I and many others owe Millie a tremendous debt of gratitude for her selfless service.

Millie will turn 90 on April 3, 2004. For the great majority of her 90 years, she has participated in the public life of my congressional district. For 68 of her 90 years, Millie has been a member of the newspaper staff of the Charleston Enterprise-Courier. She and her family have published the paper since her husband's death in 1969.

Over the years, Millie has served as reporter, photographer, editorialist, bookkeeper, file clerk, advertising salesperson, and editor in addition to her long service as publisher. She is a member of the Missouri Press Association Hall of Fame.

Millie cannot be defined in terms of the titles she has held at the newspaper, however. She has been a pillar of her community. Serving on nearly every committee in the community and encouraging participation in public affairs are just the start. After the death of her husband, Millie adopted three young women, wards of the juvenile court, and provided a stable home environment for them. Millie knew firsthand the value of an adult role model to these girls, she herself was orphaned at the age of 4.

Among her other civic activities, Millie has served as president of the PTA and two women's federated clubs, as a member of the State Mental Health Task Force, and as a Sunday School teacher at various churches in the communities in which she has lived. Even at the age of 90, Millie is still an active member of the Boards of the Mississippi County Community Sheltered Workshop and the East Prairie Housing Authority.

Not only has Mildred Wallhausen changed our communities, she has forever changed the lives of the people who call them home. She has always looked upon her responsibilities at her newspaper as a form of public service. As a personal hero of mine, she has shown uncommon strength in her desire to both do good through her own actions and communicate good through her work. She is an invaluable servant of our Nation, and she is an example for women everywhere.

Congratulations Millie, on your 90th birthday, and thank you for your guidance and kindness to me, your community, State, and Nation.

COMMENDING THE TAIWAN PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 31, 2004

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commend the voters in Taiwan, an astounding 80 percent of whom participated in the recent Presidential election, for once again demonstrating their commitment to exercising their democratic rights.

Taiwan's political system has undergone dramatic changes. Fifty years ago the country was ruled by an authoritarian dictatorship under martial law. Today it is a vibrant, multi-party democracy, having completed its third direct Presidential election. Taiwan has robust political parties with free and fair elections at all levels of government.

The margin of the Presidential victory in Taiwan was very small. However, recount issues and open demonstrations were part of the democratic process in which free expression is revered and protected. These impassioned times are the tests of true democracies.

Taiwan and the United States share a strong bond in their commitment to the ideals of a free society. Taiwanese-Americans, many living in the New York City area, are a vital part of that relationship. The Taiwanese-American community, which numbers in the hundreds of thousands, is actively engaged in our own political system, and its citizens are enthusiastically involved in the betterment of local communities across our country.

As we hope for dialogue and stability in cross-strait relations, we can also hope that one day the people of mainland China will be able to select their own leaders by democratic means.

Today, I commend the people of Taiwan for embracing democratic ideals and providing an important symbol of freedom in the Asia-Pacific region.

THE AMERICAN LEGACY FOUNDATION

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 31, 2004

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise on this, the fifth anniversary of the American Legacy Foundation, to recognize the tremendous strides this organization has made in improving the health of millions of Americans. Through its various programs such as Circle of Friends, Great Start, and Priority Population, as well as its Truth Campaign, the Foundation has played a tremendous role in promoting both the cessation and the prevention of tobacco use in our country. As the largest youth smoking prevention campaign in the United States, the Truth Campaign in particular has been cited as a factor in the current 28-year low in youth smoking rates.

Smoking costs our society not only in the lives lost but also in the billions of dollars spent on related health care. Smoking is the leading cause of preventable deaths in our country, killing 440,000 people each year, and exposes thousands of children to the harmful effects of second-hand smoke. I strongly hope that the American Legacy Foundation will continue to receive the Federal funding it needs in order to carry out its campaign for a tobacco-free nation. Mr. Speaker, I thank you for allowing me to recognize the American Legacy Foundation for its ongoing contributions to the health of our great nation.

HONORING THE LIFE OF CESAR E. CHAVEZ

HON. HILDA L. SOLIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 31, 2004

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to rise today to recognize and celebrate the birthday of Cesar E. Chavez. Cesar Chavez, an icon in the Latino community and beyond, would have been 77 today.

Cesar Chavez was born near Yuma, Arizona, and grew up in migrant labor camps, into the poverty of a migrant worker's life. He became a historical figure who embodied humility and extraordinary strength in his peaceful struggle towards social justice. He dedicated his life to tirelessly championing the rights of farm laborers and along with Dolores Huerta, founded the United Farm Workers union, fighting for better wages, conditions and respect for farmworkers.

I have introduced the Cesar E. Chavez Lands Legacy Act (H.R. 1034) to ensure that Americans can fully understand his life, vision, and impact on improving the lives of millions of Americans. I hope that his legacy and memory will someday become a fundamental piece of American history so that all Americans will understand the fight that Cesar Chavez began in the fields, a fight for social justice, civil rights, and human rights that continues today. Thanks to this fight, the Latino community, including myself, has been able to enjoy certain benefits and privileges that otherwise might not have been possible.